

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A solid state image pickup device being provided with a photoelectric converter portion having a plurality of pixels disposed in a row, a charge transfer portion for transferring the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, ~~and~~ a charge/voltage converter portion for converting the charges transferred by said charge transfer portion into voltages comprising:

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a timing pulse generator portion for generating at least more than one pulse signal type from among four pulse signals which are; a first pulse signal for driving said charge transfer portion, a second pulse signal for reading out the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, a third pulse signal for sweeping out the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, and a fourth pulse signal for discharging the charges transferred to said charge/voltage converter portion, and

a switch circuit for selectively replacing all of at least one type of ~~alternatively selecting between~~ pulse signals of said timing pulse generator ~~or~~ with either a predetermined fixed potential or a floating level and wherein the switch circuit selection is not dependent upon signals from the timing pulse generator.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for driving the horizontal read-out of a solid state image pickup device provided with a photoelectric converter portion having a plurality of pixels in a row, a charge transfer portion for transferring the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, ~~and~~ a charge/voltage converter portion for converting the charges transferred by said charge transfer portion into voltages, wherein

in a first mode, a first pulse signal for driving said charge transfer portion, a second pulse signal for reading out the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, a third pulse signal for sweeping out the charges generated in said photoelectric converter portion, and a fourth pulse signal for discharging the charges transferred to said charge/voltage converter portion are selectively supplied to said solid state image pickup device,

in a second mode, selectively ~~changing at least one pulse signal out of the first, the second, the third and the fourth pulse signals to~~ replacing all of the drive pulse signals with either a predetermined fixed potential or a floating level and wherein the selective ~~changing of at least one pulse signal~~ replacement of the drive pulse signals is performed independently from any of the pulse signals.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for driving the horizontal read-out of a solid state image pickup device provided with a plurality of photoelectric converter portions being composed of a plurality of pixels in a row, and a plurality of charge transfer portions for

transferring the charges generated in respective rows of pixels in the plurality of photoelectric converter portions, wherein,

a switch circuit selects between two modes, comprising:

a first mode in which the switch circuit passes drive pulses generated by a pulse generator to the charge transfer portions, or

a second mode in which the switch circuit replaces all of the drive pulses with either a predetermined fixed potential or a floating level, wherein the switch over is performed independently from signals of the pulse generator.

C/panel
~~in a first mode, driving pulses from a pulse generator are supplied to all charge transfer portions, and in a second mode, driving pulses to be supplied to at least one of said plurality of charge transfer portions are switched over to either a predetermined fixed potential or a floating level and wherein the switching over is performed independently from signals of the pulse generator.~~

Please add the following new claim:

4. (New) The solid state image pickup device of claim 1, wherein all of the drive pulse signals are replaced.
